लिये पहले से ही कतिपय आधार निर्धारित कर रखे थे, यदि हां, तो इस आधार का ब्यौरा क्या है तथा उन आधारों के अनुसार कब तक निर्णय लिये जाने की संभावना है ?

पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री (श्री बी. शंकरानन्द) : (क) से (घ) 13 ब्लाकों के लिए 31 कंपनियों से, स्वयं उनकी ओर से अथवा संघ के रूप में कुल 24 बोलियां प्राप्त हुई हैं।

इन बोलियों का मूल्यांकन किया जा रहा है। बोलीदाता कंपनियों के साथ बातचीत करने के बाद करारों पर हस्ताक्षर किए जाएंगे।

पश्चिमी बंगाल में तेल की खोज

1876. **श्री राम जेठमलानी :**
डा. जितेन्द्र कुमार जैन :

क्या **पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार का ध्यान 26 अप्रैल, 1992 के "इकनॉमिक टाइम्स" में "ओ० एन० जी० सी० स्ट्राइक्स इन बंगाल' शीर्षक से छपे समाचार की ओर दिलाया गया है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या यह सच है कि पश्चिमी बंगाल के उस क्षेत्र में तेल की खोज का कार्य नवम्बर, 1990 में शुरू किया गया था;

(ग) यदि हां, तो क्या यह भी सच है कि इस क्षेत्र में 4366 मीटर से 4349 मीटर की गहराई पर तेल मिलने की संभावना है; और

(घ) यदि हां, तो इस संबंध में तथ्य क्या है ?

पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री (श्री बी. शंकरानन्द) : (क) से (ग) जी, हां।

(घ) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

Transfer-Policy of IOC

1877. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian Oil Corporation and other Public Sector Undertakings functioning under his Ministry have no definite transfer policy for their employees;

(b) whether it is also a fact that employees are being transferred without any definite criteria thereby creating unrest amongst them;

(c) if so, by when the IOC, ONGC etc. would formulate a definite policy and circulate it amongst the employees to avoid indiscriminate transfers in future and reconsider the present pending cases if any; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) to (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Amounts due against SRTCs

1878. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the names of different State Road Transport Corporations which owe money to Oil Corporations;

(b) what is the amount involved as on the 31st March, 1992 and since when the amount is due;

(c) what are the reasons for accumulation of these dues; and

(d) what steps are being taken to recover the same?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) to (d) The

three Oil Marketing Companies IOC, BPCL and HPCL have reported that an approximate amount of Rs. 26 crores is due from 33 State Road Transport Corporations and other similar organisations run by the States/Local Bodies. Paucity of funds, non-payment of interest charges on delayed payments, etc. are some of the reasons given for the accumulation of these dues. Efforts are constantly being made by the Oil Companies to recover these amounts.

Increase in the production of LPG.

1879. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) what steps Government have so far taken to increase day to day production of LPG by the existing Bottling Plants and the latest safety measures to be adopted in each Plant (State-wise) for the year 1992-93 as compared to figures of the last year in percentage of month-wise production;

(b) whether Government have worked out supply and demand position of LPG in the country particularly in Rajasthan and Orissa during 1992-93; if so, whether more Plants are likely to be opened during this period of the 8th Five Year Plan Period in these two States; if not, the reasons therfor; and

(c) whether Government have any Plan to send abroad LPG qualified Engineers/Staff working in India to undertake extensive comparative study of production safety measures being adopted by other advanced countries vis a-vis India; if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) and (b) The total quantity of LPG used in filling of Cylinders in the various bottling plants in the country during 1991-92 was around 2333 TMT as against 2080 TMT in 1990-91. Efforts are continuously being made to increase the supply of LPG to fill more LPG cylinders by augmenting the capacity of existing bottling plants and also by setting up new bottling plants in various parts of the country. While proposals have been made for increasing the bottling capacity of some existing plants and for setting up new plants in different states, actual decisions would depend on availability of resources, availability of LPG, prioritisation of need amongst different States etc.

(c) There is no such proposal at present.

CBI cases against officials

1880. SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases of CBI investigations and internal vigilance enquiries pending against the Officers of Public Sector Undertaking engaged in exploration, refining and marketing of Petroleum Products;

(b) what are the names and designations of officers charged with corruption including raids carried out at their personal or official residences;

(c) the number of officers kept under suspension pending the results of the investigation; and

(d) what is the outcome of the investigations during the last five years?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Exploration of oil-fields by International Companies

1881. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of foreign multinationals have